

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01

TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 XMB-04

OPIC-06 /116 W

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R 151547Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2161

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 BONN 13274

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GW

SUBJECT: FRG PRODUCT STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION  
SYSTEMS:

REF: (A) STATE 182572/1

(B) BONN 6129, APRIL 1974

(C) BONN 11997, SEP. 1, L972

FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS ARE KEYED TO QUESTIONS IN REF A.

1. QUESTION 5A, PARAS 1-5: NOT APPLICABLE. ALL GERMAN  
TECHNICAL STANDARDS - DESIGNATED AS DIN(DEUTSCHE INDUS-  
TRIE NORM)- ARE VOLUNTARY AND REPRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS  
ONLY. THEY ACQUIRE MANDATORY STATUS ONLY IF FRG INCORPO-  
RATES THEM IN LAW OR REGULATION.

2. PARA 6:DIN STANDARDS ARE  
ESTABLISHED BY A CENTRAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODY,  
DEUTSCHER NORMENAUSSCHUSS (DNA-GERMAN STANDARDS ASSOCI-  
ATION) BERLIN AND COLOGNE (REF C). EFFECTIVE SEPTEM-  
BER 1, 1975, THE NAME OF ORGANIZATION WILL BE CHANGED TO  
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DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FUER NORMUNG (DIN-GERMAN INSTITUTE

FOR STANDARDIZATION). THIS CABLE WILL REFER TO ORGANIZATION AS DNA/DIN.

3. PARA 7: 1975 FIGURES SHOW THAT THERE ARE SOME 12,500 DIN STANDARDS IN FOLLOWING MAJOR PRODUCT CATEGORIES:

| CATEGORY                             | NUMBER OF STANDARDS |      |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------|
| BASIC STANDARDS AND VARIOUS FIELDS   |                     | 3000 |
| BUILDING                             | 500                 |      |
| MINING                               | 200                 |      |
| CHEMICAL INDUSTRY                    | 150                 |      |
| ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING               | 1 300               |      |
| SCREWS, BOLTS, NUTS                  | 750                 |      |
| PUBLIC HYGIENE. ACCIDENT PREVENTION. |                     |      |
| FIRE-FIGHTING                        | 250                 |      |
| PRINTING TRADES. PUBLICITY. PAPER    |                     |      |
| INDUSTRY. OFFICE WORK                | 150                 |      |
| DOMESTIC ECONOMY                     | 150                 |      |
| HEATING, FUELS                       | 150                 |      |
| METALLURGY                           | 400                 |      |
| RUBBER, PLASTICS                     | 210                 |      |
| AGRICULTURE                          | 140                 |      |
| MECHANICAL ENGINEERING               | 1 900               |      |
| MATERIALS TESTING                    | 530                 |      |
| SHIPBUILDING                         | 160                 |      |
| TEXTILE INDUSTRY                     | 380                 |      |
| TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC                | 1 220               |      |
| PACKING                              | 160                 |      |
| HYDRAULICS                           | 120                 |      |
| TOOLS, MACHINE TOOLS                 | 680                 |      |

A. IN ADDITION, ABOUT 3,500 DRAFT STANDARDS ARE IN PREPARATION ( NO BREAKDOWN IN MAJOR PRODUCT CATEGORIES AVAILABLE).

B. NO STATISTICAL DATA ARE AVAILABLE TO SHOW WHAT PERCENTAGE OF EXISTING VOLUNTARY NATIONAL STANDARDS IS BASED ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS - E.G., ISO, IEC, CEN, AND CENELEC.

C. NO PRECISE ESTIMATE CAN BE MADE AS TO WHAT EXTENT UNCLASSIFIED

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DIN STANDARDS ACQUIRE MANDATOR STATUS BY FRG LAW OR REGULATION. WE GUESS THAT THIS PERCENTAGE IS LOW. FIELDS IN WHICH VOLUNTARY STANDARDS HAVE BEEN MADE MANDATORY, INCLUDE CONSTRUCTION AND PRESSURE VESSELS.

D. PROCEDURES FOR DEVELOPING TECHNICAL STANDARDS ARE LAID DOWN IN DIN 820, OUTLINING PREPARATION OF STANDARDS, STANDARDIZATION PROCEDURE, FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS, PRINCIPLES, AND SYSTEMS. EMBASSY WILL FORWARD DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COPY OF DIN 820 BY REGISTERED MAIL.

4. QUESTION 5B, PARAS 1 AND 2: NOT APPLICABLE

5. PARA 3: SINCE ADHERENCE TO TECHNICAL STANDARDS IS VOLUNTARY, THERE ARE NO UNIFORM TESTING OR CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES IN FEDERAL REPUBLIC. MANY DIN STANDARDS, HOWEVER, INCLUDE INFORMATION ABOUT TESTING PROCEDURE.

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DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2162

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ASSURANCE OF CONFORMITY WITH EXISTING STANDARDS (I.E. CERTIFICATION) HAS A BEARING ONLY IN CASES (A) IN WHICH STANDARDS BECOME MANDATORY BY FRG LAW OR REGULATION OR (B) WHERE IT SERVES TO ENSURE BETTER MARKETING PROSPECTS. QUESTION OF WHO PERFORMS TESTS IS ENTIRELY A MATTER BETWEEN QUALIFIED GERMAN TESTING INSTITUTES - E.G. VDE TESTING OFFICE, OFFENBACH; TECHNICAL SUPERVISORY SOCIETIES (TUEV), ESSEN, WITH ALL ITS BRANCH OFFICES - AND FOREIGN SUPPLIERS OR TESTING INSTITUTES CONCERNED.  
A. WE UNDERSTAND IT IS POLICY OF GERMAN

TESTING INSTITUTES, IN CASES WHERE AGREEMENT EXISTS WITH FOREIGN TESTING INSTITUTES, TO HAVE LATTER PERFORM TESTS ACCORDING TO GERMAN TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES. HOWEVER, ONLY GERMAN TESTING INSTITUTES ISSUE CERTIFICATES, IF APPLICABLE (E.G. VDE SEAL FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT). IN ABSENCE OF AGREEMENT WITH FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS, GERMAN TESTING INSTITUTES TEST IMPORTED FOREIGN PRODUCTS IN FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND WEST BERLIN IN COMPLIANCE WITH GERMAN STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES AND IN A NON-DISCRIMINATORY MANNER. IF FOR TECHNICAL UNCLASSIFIED

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REASONS PRODUCTS MUST BE TESTED IN COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, GERMAN TESTING ENGINEERS DO THIS AT SUPPLIERS' EXPENSE.

B. WE NOTE THREE TESTING AGREEMENTS STILL IN FORCE:

- (1) AN AGREEMENT FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF TESTS AND PROCEDURES - E.G. FOR PRESSURE VESSELS (MANDATORY STANDARD)- BETWEEN GERMAN TESTING ORGANIZATIONS AND BELGIAN AND FRENCH TESTING ORGANIZATIONS;
- (2) AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN VDE AND US UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES WHEREBY VDE TESTS GERMAN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES FOR EXPORTATION TO THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH US UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES SPECIFICATIONS:

- (3) ASME AUTHORIZATION TO CONTROL COMPANY GMBH, HAMBURG ( A BRANCH OF THE WORLD-WIDE TESTING ORGANIZATION) TO TEST GERMAN PRESSURE VESSELS FOR EXPORTATION TO US IN ORDER TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH ASME SPECIFICATIONS.

C. IN CONNECTION WITH THE EC-HARMONIZED STANDARDS DIRECTIVE ON LOW-VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT (REF. B), EMBASSY IN 1974 INVESTIGATED POSSIBILITIES FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF TESTS BY US,GERMAN INSTITUTES. AT THAT TIME, GERMAN TEST INSTITUTES SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN DISCUSSING SUBJECT WITH US ENGINEERS IN ORDER TO COME TO A RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT WITH US TESTING INSTITUTES. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, NOTHING DEVELOPED FROM THIS INTEREST. ONLY EXAMPLE OF SUCH AGREEMENT IS 1965 RECIPROCAL DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS BETWEEN TUEV RHEINLAND (COLOGNE) AND US COMPANY NUS CORP. (1730 MST, NW, WASHINGTON D.C.) WITH REGARD TO TESTING OF COMPONENTS FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS. THIS CONTRACT PROVIDED FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF TESTS, BUT WAS TERMINATED BY TUEV ON DECEMBER 31, 1972, DUE TO LACK OF MATERIAL TO BE TESTED.

D. WE UNDERSTAND THAT IN SEPTEMBER FRENCH ENGINEERS FROM PRIVATE TESTING INSTITUTES CETIM WANT TO DISCUSS WITH TUEV RHEINLAND (COLOGNE) POSSIBILITIES FOR TESTING FRENCH MADE MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES UNDER TERMS OF FRG LAW ON SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT.

6. QUESTION C. PARA 1: ALL DIN STANDARDS ARE WRITTEN  
BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION, DNA/DIN. THERE IS NO  
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OTHER STANDARDS-WRITING AUTHORITY IN FRG.

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7. PARA 2: FRG'S AUTHORITY TO ENFORCE COMPLIANCE WITH  
PROVISIONS OF DRAFT GATT CODE OF CONDUCT IS VESTED IN  
CONTRACT CONCLUDED BETWEEN FRG AND DNA/DIN ON JUNE 5,  
1975. CONTRACT RECOGNIZES DNA/DIN AS "OFFICIAL" ORGANI-  
ZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION IN FRG AND WEST BERLIN;  
DNA/DIN HAS EXPLICIT OBLIGATION UNDER SECTION 6 "TO USE  
ALL MEANS WITHIN ITS POWER IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT OBLI-

GATIONS FOR A LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE AND A REMOVAL OF TECHNICAL TRADE BARRIERS, WHICH FRG HAS ASSUMED BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT, WILL NOT BE HAMPERED BY DNA/DIN STANDARDS." CONTRACT FURTHER PROVIDES THAT DNA/DIN WILL (A) SUPPORT FRG IN ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS IN THE FIELD OF STANDARDIZATION, (B) ESTABLISH STANDARDS UPON FRG REQUEST ON A PRIORITY BASIS, AND (C) MODIFY AND WITHDRAW STANDARDS IF THEY CONTRADICT FRG LAW OR REGULATION. (SEPTEL UNDER PREPARATION ON THIS CONTRACT).

A. HISTORICALLY, FRG HAS SUBSIDIZED DNA/DIN WITH MINIMAL AMOUNTS (SEE REF C). IN 1974, DNA/DIN RECEIVED FRG UNCLASSIFIED

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BUDGET APPROPRIATION OF DM 1 070 000 (APPROX. \$414,280). THIS AMOUNT WAS GIVEN TO DNA/DIN TO REPRESENT FRG ON TECHNICAL LEVEL IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION WORK AND TO ACT AS ADVISOR TO FRG. ACCORDING TO DNA/DIN CONTACTS, 1974 FRG AND STATE (LAENDER) CONTRIBUTIONS TO DNA/DIN FOR DIN STANDARDIZATION ACCOUNTED FOR ONLY 7 PERCENT OF DNA/DIN BUDGET. IN VIEW OF ABOVE-MENTIONED CONTRACT BETWEEN FRG AND DNA/DIN, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT FRG CONTRIBUTION WILL INCREASE.

B. PRESENTLY, SEVEN OF 37 MEMBERS OF DNA/DIN GOVERNING BOARD COME FROM FRG AND LAENDER GOVERNMENTS. WE UNDERSTAND THESE OFFICIALS SERVE SOLELY AS TECHNICAL EXPERTS SO FAR WITHOUT POLICY-RELATED MANDATE FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS.

8. PARA 3: NOT APPLICABLE

9. EMBASSY WILL BE PLEASED TO PROVIDE FURTHER DATA ON REQUEST.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENT DRAFT, COMMODITIES, STANDARDS, CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 6  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 182572  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRG PRODUCT STANDARDS AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, GE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006